

**RETHINKING LABOR MARKET INFORMALIZATION**  
*Precarious Jobs, Poverty, and Social Protection*

October 18-19, 2002 / 401 Warren Hall, Cornell University

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**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2002**

**9:00 – 9:30 Registration**

**9:30 – 10:00 Opening Session**

Porus Olpadwala, Dean, College of Architecture, Art & Planning  
Lourdes Benería, Director, Gender and Global Change Program

**10:15 – 11:45 Panel 1**

**The Informal Economy: Emerging Realities and Changing Definitions**

Chair: Philip McMichael, Cornell University

- Lin Lim, ILO  
*Decent Work and the Informal Economy*
- Juan Pablo Pérez-Sainz, FLACSO, Central America  
*New Tendencies of Labor Exclusion in Latin America*
- Marty Chen, Harvard University  
*Reconceptualizing the Informal Economy: Production and Employment Relations*

**12:00 – 1:00 Keynote Address**

Chair: Ravi Kanbur, Cornell University

- Mirai Chatterjee, SEWA, India  
*Social Protection in the Changing World of Work: Experiences of Informal Women Workers in India.*

2:30 – 4:00

**Panel 2**

**Jobs and Poverty: Informalization Jobs, Insecurity and Vulnerability**

Chair: William Goldsmith, Cornell University

- Ragui Assaad, University of Minnesota  
*Informalization and De-Feminization in the Egyptian Labor Market: Explaining the Unexpected Pattern*
- Maria Floro and Lourdes Beneria, American University and Cornell University  
*Gender Constructs and Labor Market Informalization: Homeworking, Finance and Bargaining Power*
- Pat Horn, StreeNet Association, South Africa  
*The Realities, the Organizing Strategies, and Policy Priorities of Street Vendors and their Organizations*

4:15 – 5:45

**Panel 3**

**Informality and the City**

Chair: Rolf Pendall, Cornell University

- Faranak Miraftab, University of Illinois/Urbana-Champaign  
*Privatization and Casualization of Labor: The Case of Waste Collection Services in Cape Town, South Africa*
- Edesio Fernandes, University College, London  
*Urban Land, Housing and Informality*
- Neema Kudva, Cornell University  
*Informality in Urban Space*

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 19, 2002**

9:30 – 11:00

**Panel 4**

**Rethinking Social Protection, Workers Rights and Collective Voice**

Chair: Shelley Feldman, Cornell University

- Renana Jhabvala and Ravi Kanbur, SEWA and Cornell University  
*Globalization and Economic Reform as Seen from the Ground: SEWA's Experiences in India*
- Armando Barrientos, IDPM University of Manchester  
*Social Protection and Informal Employment in Latin America: From the Weak to the Strong*
- Chris Benner, Pennsylvania State University

*Improvisational Reform: Building Collective Voice and Security in the New Economy*

**11:30 – 1:00 Panel 5**

**Legal and Institutional Frameworks of Informalization**

Chair: Bernie D. Jones, Visiting Scholar, Cornell Law School

- Kathy Stone, Cornell University  
*The Impact of Boundaryless Workplaces on Social Protection and Labor Law*
- Juan Arbona, Bryn Mawr College  
*The Informal Sector and Urban Politics in El Alto, Bolivia*
- Muneer Ahmad, American University Law School  
*The Role of Labor Law and the Informal Economy*

**3:00 – 4:30 Panel 6**

**Linking Work and Poverty Elimination: Distribution vs. Redistribution Strategies**

Chair: Rosemary Batt, Cornell University

- Kaushik Basu, Cornell University  
*The Global State of Child Labor: What Should Be Done?*
- Thea Lee, AFL/CIO  
*Decent Work and the Informal Economy*
- Bob Polin and James Heintz, University of Massachusetts  
*The Role of the Informal Sector in Creating Global Labor Standards*

**5:00 – 6:00 Concluding Session: Round Table with all Participants**

Chair: Neema Kudva, Cornell University

**Comments:** John Langmore, ILO and Neema Kudva

**6:15 – 7:15 Reception**